Thursday, June 8, 2006

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Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

ITEM 62

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Chapter 2-1 (Boards and Commissions), Article 9 of the City Code relating to the duties of and renaming of the Austin Telecommunications Commission, and changing the name to the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission.

Amount and Source of Funding:

Fiscal Note:

Additional Backup Material

(click to open)

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For More Information: Rondella Hawkins at (512) 974-2422

Prior Council Action:

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Austin Telecommunications Commission and the Council Committee for Emerging Technology and Communications.

In 1994, the Austin City Council approved Ordinance Number 941208-F that changed the name and scope of work of the Austin Cable Commission to the Austin Telecommunications Commission, an advisory body to the City Council. At the request of the former Council Committee for Telecommunications Infrastructure, now known as the Council Committee for Emerging Technologies and Telecommunications, the Austin Telecommunications Commission came up with a new name, the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission.

The proposed name change reflects the broadened scope of duties from those that were originally defined in the Commission's enabling ordinance to include telecommunications and community technology issues that further increase the attention to the digital divide and to promote technology availability and access to training in the community by the citizens of Austin.

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the ordinance proposed by the Austin Telecommunications Commission changing their name to the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission, and changing their scope.